

ROOSEVELT AND ROYALTIES

263

gravest problems are those affecting us within. In matters outside our borders, we are chiefly concerned, first with what goes on south of us, second with affairs in the .Orient; and in both cases our interests are identical with yours.

It seems to me that if Eussia had been wise she would have made peace before the Japanese took Mukden. If she waits until they are north of Harbin the terms will certainly be worse for her. I had this view unofficially conveyed to the Eussian Government some weeks ago; and I think it would have been to their interest if they had then acted upon it.

With hearty thanks for your cordial
courtesy,
Believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

THEODORE
ROOSEVELT.

"Why the King decided to send the Hampden miniature to Eoosevelt was explained several years later by the following letter from the Et. Hon. Sir Cecil Arthur Spring-Eice, afterward British Ambassador at Washington, to Eoosevelt:

Personal.

30, NORFOLK CRESCENT, W.
May 7, 1910.

My dear Theodore:

I think I ought to tell you something about our King who died last night. When I came back from seeing you in Washington after you were President he sent for me and talked a long time about you. I told him what I thought you stood for, quite frankly and fully though, if popular impres-

sions at that time had been quite justified, he
would not have
sympathized much with what I told him. But he
did listen
very sympathetically. He said he wanted to get
into per-
sonal relations with you, not as King and
President
so much as two men with certain aims in
common. He
mentioned what his father had done on
his death
bed for good relations, and wished to do
something himself.